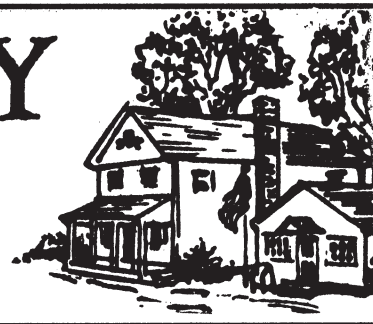




MONTEREY NEWS

February 2007
VOLUME XXXVII · Number 2



The Town

General Store Woes

The smallest piece of news may be the biggest news for this month. In a brief meeting on January 8th Kenn Basler, operator of the Monterey General Store, informed the Select Board that in order to be financially feasible the store might need to be operated on a seasonal basis. Basler suggested that unless something changes he would need to shut down the store for the months of January, February, and March due to lack of business. He said that he was approaching the Select Board so that they would be aware of the situation since the store is considered by many to be the heart of the town. Having already cut back the store hours, Basler will review his options and is open to suggestions and

comments while making his decision about only being open nine months of the year. The Select Board thanked him for making them aware of his deliberations.

School News

During the January 22nd meeting the Select Board met with Monterey's School Committee representative Deborah Mielke, School Committee chair Catherine Miller, and Southern Berkshire Regional School District Superintendent Valerie Spriggs to discuss the fate of the Monterey Kindergarten. Mary Makuc and Chuck and Debra Mielke were also at the meeting as concerned citizens. The problem is twofold: the Monterey Kindergarten is under-attended, and the building needs extensive renovation. According to the demographic survey, in 2001 there were

two births in Monterey, which makes for a sparse kindergarten class in 2007. Currently six children are enrolled at the Monterey Kindergarten. School Committee Chair Catherine Miller characterized the situation as a "sticky wicket." She said that the outlying schools are appealing since they are close to the students' homes and provide an interesting dimension to the school system. However, she went on to say that with the necessary upgrade of the building, the salaries, transporting professionals to the schools (music, art, gym, etc.), and general building maintenance, it is not economically feasible for the five towns in the district to vote for that kind of capital outlay for six children.

Superintendent Spriggs said that Monterey needs to find out how the community feels about the school, adding



Peggy Reeves

The December 29th Big, Big Concert: (l-r) David Reed, Mark Caldwell (mostly obscured), John Sellow, Tony Manes, Robin O'Herin (mostly obscured), Joel Schick, Bobby Sweet (mostly obscured), Mary Knysh, Tom Ingersoll.

that the district will not abruptly close the school and that we, as a community, have a couple of years to figure this out. In referring to the renovation estimates, Select Board member Jon Sylbert said that he thought it would be unwise to spend \$400,000 (the estimated cost of repairs) on that particular building. He mentioned that there had been some talk of trying to combine a school with a community center at the Wilson-McLaughlin House property. Sylbert also said that after-school programs were important to working parents. Spriggs said that an after-school program had been offered this year but no one subscribed.

Mary Makuc said, "Some people have a dream of having a school in Monterey," and she wanted to know, "What are we looking at for next year?" Sylbert responded, "We have two years left at the current school." Sylbert also stated that parents from other towns would bring their children to Monterey if there were

a compelling reason to do so. There were also suggestions about combining the kindergarten with a preschool program. Mary Makuc asked if there was a public relations person from the district who could help market the Monterey Kindergarten.

Superintendent Spriggs stated, "We are putting a lot of money into educating a few students in Monterey. We have a responsibility to the students to have a quality program, and we have a responsibility to the district to be fiscally responsible." Catherine Miller said, "Closing the school is the responsibility of the town, and the town needs to figure out 'where we are going to put this program. Does Monterey even want the school?' That's the first question!"

In light of the current question about the viability and desirability of a school in Monterey, the Select Board in conjunction with the Planning Board, has scheduled a Community Conversation to be held on February 13 at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall to discuss the school issue. Planning Board chair Maggie Leonard (full disclosure: your faithful reporter) noted that this discussion would be a perfect place to begin the series of meetings for the master plan. In order to make a good decision about the school and many other issues, it is imperative that we make an effort to poll the thoughts of our citizens.

DSL Service

The Select Board has been working to get high-speed Internet service for

Monterey. Their efforts were rewarded in December when a DSL box was installed at the Firehouse with service available for 48 households to the east. Those 48 slots were quickly taken. People living on Route 23 west were informed that Great Barrington would serve them. Another DSL box was installed at Sylvan Road and Tyringham Road, enabling people on Tyringham Road, Sylvan Road, Hupi Road, Mount Hunger Road, and Art School Road to get high-speed Internet service. Those on Beartown Mountain Road do not get service.

Brian Morin, a local operations manager for Verizon, explained why some people are not getting the service. In some cases, where the DSL system has been installed, such as on Route 23, Verizon quickly ran out of space on the system. Morin confirmed that system expansion has been planned for the box on Route 23. In other cases the existing wiring must be upgraded before a DSL system can be installed.

In Pittsfield Verizon is getting competition from Time-Warner cable, which offers television, high speed internet, and phone service all in one package. This is causing Verizon to speed up their expansion service all around the county. However, we are a rural community and the lower density means greater expense for the installer and a reduced profit. Meanwhile DSL technology continues to improve. Where previously a DSL box was only effective for 13,000 feet



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(approximately 2¼ miles) the most recently DSL technology is effective for 18,000–20,000 feet (3–4 miles).

On January 22nd Crispin Tresp of WiSpring, a local wireless Internet service provider, met with the Select Board to discuss the lack of high-speed Internet service in Monterey. WiSpring uses a product that is a small (approximately 8 inches by 5 inches) tan-colored box that has a line-of-sight range and is “very powerful,” indicating that just a few would be needed around town. Unlike satellite technology this system will not go down in heavy weather. The boxes need to be mounted on poles approximately 100 feet in the air. Due to Monterey’s restrictive telecommunications bylaw the only place in town for siting is Mount Wilcox. Unfortunately the state will not allow commercial enterprise in the state forest. Select Board member Wayne Burkhart noted that the telecommunications bylaw is overly restrictive and needs to be changed.

Building Department

In Building Inspector Don Torrico meeting with the Select Board on January 22nd he questioned the amount of personal information that should be released in the *Monterey News* regarding building permits. Torrico believes that building permits are personal information and that it is inappropriate to make such information public. A philosophical discussion ensued about obtaining building permits and the rights of individuals to construct

The Monterey News, in conjunction with the
Republican and Democratic caucuses,
invite:

Monterey Voters

To meet Saturday, February 24th at 2 pm at the
Monterey Meetinghouse

To discuss local town elections

- ✓ How do the caucuses nominate candidates to run for town office?
- ✓ How do unenrolled candidates run for office?
- ✓ What offices are up for election this year?
- ✓ What do local elected officials do?
- ✓ When do they meet?
- ✓ How much time do the various offices involve?

Also: Should Monterey adopt a nonpartisan election process?

Everyone welcome

New residents and those who have not served on town boards and commissions especially encouraged to come and learn more about the why and the how of participating in town governance.

on their property. Select Board member Wayne Burkhart stated, “The whole process has become too expensive, what with the engineering required and all. If a citizen cannot go to a citizen board and get the permits, then we have changed as a town. It’s not a sensible process.” Torrico asked, “What am I supposed to do if it’s required by the state code? I’m responsible for enforcing the state building code.”

Jon Sylbert said that philosophically he agrees with Burkhart, but that discussion should be held at another time. Sylbert stated that Torrico is doing a good job for the town within the parameters of his responsibilities.

Torrico informed the board that two state officials were visiting Monterey to review two locations in town where manufactured homes were being constructed.

Highways and Operations


Director of Operations Maynard Forbes meets with the Select Board at each Monday meeting. Forbes reported that the new diesel truck was delivered at the beginning of January and that it was being transported to New Hampshire to have the dump body put on. A gate is going to be put up on Beartown Mountain Road at the snowplow turnaround. Tamarack Tree Co. will be trimming branches that threaten power lines. National Grid will

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be paying for some of the work and some will be covered by the Highway Department tree-cutting budget. Forbes said that someone was trespassing on the site of the River Road bridge work. Forbes noted that there are signs alerting people to "Keep Out" and that it is dangerous for citizens to be clambering around the construction site.

At the January 29th meeting Transfer Station policies were discussed. Forbes recommended a \$5 increase for dump stickers, bringing the cost to \$40 for two stickers. It was noted that \$40 in no way covers the cost of disposing of the garbage for one household for a year. The Town Bylaws state that all households in Monterey must purchase a transfer station sticker. Since it is a mandate, the Select Board voted to keep the price at \$35. It was also alleged that one family had paid for the two stickers and given the second sticker to another family. Any citizens found to be in violation of the Transfer Station regulations will no longer have use of the Transfer Station. It was agreed to add language to the sticker application that certifies that the stickers will serve only one household. Lost stickers, replacement stickers, and temporary stickers will be \$10

each and will be valid for one year. Private haulers need to provide a list to the town with the addresses of all the households they pick up trash for and those residents will also have to have a current sticker.

The subject of inconsistent heat in the town offices was discussed at the January 22nd and 29th meetings. Over the weekend of January 18th the heat in the town offices went out and, although the alarm system connected to the furnace functioned properly, the alarm company did not notify the town of the heat loss. Police Chief Backhaus reported that there was a data error problem at the alarm company and that he has been in contact with the company and corrected the problem. Forbes suggested that he and Backhaus test the system to insure that the alarm company has fixed the problem.

Police Report

Police Chief Gareth Backhaus also meets with the Select Board each Monday. He reported that he had explained to the new Lieutenant at the State Trooper barracks in Lee that the roads in Monterey are not state roads and should not be patrolled as such. The explanation was precipitated by a situation in which Backhaus overheard on the radio a State Trooper in Monterey telling someone that hitchhiking is illegal, which is not true in Monterey. Hitchhiking is illegal on state roads.

Chief Backhaus reported on his meeting with the Regional Emergency Planning Commission (REPC), which is the offspring of the Local Emergency Planning Commission created some years ago in Monterey. The REPC is planning a drill that will attempt to prepare for an influenza epidemic. Specifically the agencies are preparing for a possible outbreak of avian influenza. Backhaus reported that he has been meeting with the Board of Health in this regard, and that the regional plan sites the immunization location at the Muddy Brook elementary school.

The Police blotter for January is as follows: loose cows on the road; a trespass on the River Road Bridge construction site; an abandoned 911 call from the Town Hall elevator (when Verizon was repairing the phone line the emergency system was inadvertently activated); motor vehicle lockout on Pixley Road; downed branches removed at intersection of Hupi Road and Main Road; alarm systems responded to on Beartown Mountain Road, Steven's Lake Way, Hupi Road, Gould Farm, Main Road, and Mount Hunger Estates; disabled motor vehicle on Carrington Batelle Road; noise complaint on Williams Lane at 3:30 a.m.; disabled motor vehicle on Pixley Road; large pine tree down on Sylvan Road which took the power lines with it (the power company and the phone company were notified); disabled vehicle on Sandisfield

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Road; larceny on Williams Lane; lockout on Hupi Road.

Friends of Wilson McLaughlin House Committee

Friends of Wilson McLaughlin House (FWMH) committee members Shirley Olds, Gige O'Connell, Gerry Shapiro, and Joe Baker met with the Select Board on January 8th. The committee has been doing additional investigation on Edith Wilson's will and has determined that the town already owns 24 of the 28 acres at the New Marlborough Road site. The FWMH committee is seeking to resolve conflicting interpretations of the will and to determine what the Town can do with Edith Wilson's house and the surrounding 4 acres of land. (See article on p. 8.)

The FWMH committee reported that the revelation that the town already owns the 24-acre property has impacted the fund-raising efforts for a new community center. Recent fund-raising events have revealed a general consensus that the project is prohibitively expensive. In some quarters fund-raising based on saving the 24-acre piece from development was generating a greater interest than the community center project.

Select Board member Jon Sylbert said that the board would consult with Town Counsel to review the will and advise on how to proceed. The important question



Joel Schick and Bobby Sweet performing at General Store's Big Concert.

seems to be what the town can do with the current building or if it would be possible to construct an entirely new municipal building if it was found to be a hardship to renovate the existing structure.

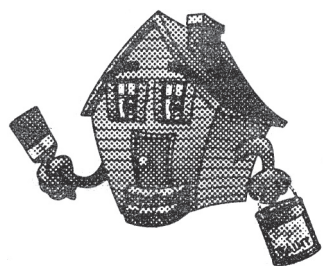
Fire Chief

The Select Board met with Fire Chief Ray Tryon during the January 29th meeting and discussed the Town Bylaw as it pertains to alarms (Article XIII). Tryon contends that much of the Town Bylaw on alarms is incorrect and should be removed, explaining that current alarm systems function differently than in the past. The old systems called the police or fire station directly; current systems call a monitoring service which then calls a dispatch center. The board is considering keeping only section 6 of Article XIII and

including a definition of false alarms in that section. Select Board chair Michael Storch recommended that there should be a charge for false fire alarms that reflects the actual cost of paying the Fire Department to deploy with their equipment. There was discussion about making the fines \$100 for the first false alarm, \$500 for the second false alarm, and \$1000 for the third offense.

Chief Tryon reported that the Fire Department would be hiring a company to come in and regularly service the trucks after a complaint was made that they were not being properly maintained. Tryon said that just because there isn't a "mountain of paper work" doesn't mean that the trucks are not maintained. He noted that every filter on all the vehicles have the date of

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the last filter change, but that if the board is concerned about maintenance the new policy should take care of any doubts.

Chief Tryon stated that if the Select Board puts off the purchase of a new truck to replace the 1993 Mac truck operated by the Highway Department, the price will increase anywhere from \$15,000 to \$23,000 due to the new EPA standards for trucks. The Select Board took that advice under consideration but said that they were inclined to defer the purchase anyway.

Lake Garfield

On January 22nd Dean Amidon stopped by to ask that the Select Board seriously consider immediately raising the gate on the dam at Lake Garfield. Amidon stated that due to the lack of snow this winter it will be difficult to fill the lake for summer. "Fifty percent of the water in the lake comes from natural springs and 50 percent comes from runoff. If we don't plug that thing up, the lake won't be full until well into August. I've seen it happen before."

On January 29th Amidon returned with Conservation Commission members Tim Lovett and David Dempsey. The Conservation Commission recommended

waiting another week for a good freeze to occur on the weeds. The Conservation Commission was also concerned that there may be dock projects in progress that would need the water level to remain low until the normal refill date in mid-February.

The Select Board unanimously agreed to start the refill early and will send a letter to the Conservation Commission with that as an official request. The Conservation Commission will review the conditions at that time and, if approved, will send an amended Order of Conditions back to the Select Board and the Director of Operations.

Monterey Water Company

Steve Pullen from the Monterey Water Company met with the Select Board to report on a meeting of the Water Company. At that meeting the company took up the question of an abatement for certain customers. Pullen explained that the Water Company operates on a flat fee and does not use a system whereby individuals are monitored for their water use. Each household or business pays a flat fee, so if anyone doesn't pay it has a direct affect on the other members of the company. So the answer to the abatement question was no, it is not economically feasible for the Water Company to do so.

Pullen explained that the Monterey Water Company is a 501-(c)(12) corporation, which is defined as a public benefit

corporation. It's a nonprofit entity that operates much like a co-op. The Monterey Water Company owns 7½ acres on Sandisfield Road and pays approximately \$400 in taxes. The Water Company pays real estate and personal property tax (on the equipment that they own). Stan Ross happened to wander in during the conversation and volunteered to look into a tax exemption for the Water Company.


This and That

Select Board chair Michael Storch officially announced that he will not be running for Select Board again.


All the budget information from the various town boards and officers is due to the Finance Committee by February 14th. Also, Debra Mielke announced that she will not be running for another term on the Finance Committee

The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women has sent the Select Board a letter seeking nominations for their Unsung Heroines Award. The letter asks for help in identifying women in our community "who don't make news but definitely make a difference in their neighborhoods and communities." The idea is to honor women who are selflessly making contributions in the community. Nominations for the Unsung Heroines Award are due by February 19th and should be directed to the Select Board.

— Maggie Leonard



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Planning Board News

The Planning Board in conjunction with the Select Board is holding the first in a series of Community Conversations on Tuesday, February 13, at 6:30 p.m. This event will focus on the possible extinction of the Monterey Kindergarten and will seek to poll residents on their thoughts about it. We will also welcome insights, ideas, and strokes of genius. The series of Community Conversations is designed to get residents talking about various aspects of our town. In this case we will focus on the school since it is currently a front-burner issue. Please join us and become part of the solution.

The Planning Board is working on a bylaw proposal for regulations concerning common driveways to present to the town at the annual meeting in May. Common driveways serve more than one household and are a way to develop large tracts of land without having to create a subdivision. The Planning Board has agreed that developments with common driveways are preferable to multiple curb cuts along any given road. A single curb cut in the road is probably safer and reduces visual "clutter."

CHARLES J. FERRIS Attorney at Law



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The Monterey Select Board and The Monterey Planning Board *cordially invite all citizens of Monterey to a* **Community Conversation** *to discuss the future of a school in Monterey* **Tuesday, February 13, 2007** **6:30 p.m., Monterey Town Hall**

So why regulate common driveways? Mainly, to insure that private roads that are used by several families are of a good standard and safe for the passage of vehicles, most importantly emergency vehicles. After seeing the condition of West Road, off Route 57, a private road that predates the Subdivision Control Regulations, the Planning Board became aware of how a road with no legal maintenance agreement can fall into disrepair. That road in particular is in bad shape, and the residents have not been able to figure out any legal recourse. After years of neglect how are the residents to upgrade their road? Regulations for common driveways would set a standard for proper drainage and road construction, and would require the creation of neighborhood associations that would be legally bound to maintain the road. This would protect landowners and the town.

Prior to embarking on our investigations, the Planning Board consulted Highway Superintendent Maynard Forbes to ask if he thought the town needed a common driveway bylaw. Forbes said yes,

and he wrote up a list of specifications based on the number of houses served by a common driveway. With those in hand the Planning Board began its study of common driveways in Monterey. We looked at the existing common driveways and noted the pros and cons. We also noticed that as development increases and construction costs increase the common driveways are getting longer and serving more houses. We have been studying the bylaws from other towns, most particularly West Stockbridge. Currently we are leaning toward a tiered approach, first suggested by Maynard Forbes, that increases the construction standards with the number of households served by the driveway.

The Planning Board will continue to work on the common driveway bylaw proposal this month, and we aim to have a public hearing on March 22. Please feel free to give your input on this subject. You can attend a Planning Board meeting on the second or fourth Thursday of every month.

— Maggie Leonard, Chair
Monterey Planning Board

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Community Center News

Early in January, members of the Wilson McLaughlin House Committee met with the Select Board to discuss the steps that should be taken to clarify the interpretation of Edith Wilson's will. The Select Board agreed that the town should seek legal help in determining the exact status of the parcel of land surrounding and including the house, as well as determining what the town's options are for fulfilling the stipulations of the will. It has been decided that Town Counsel will petition Probate Court to achieve these two goals.

Over the past two and a half years, the Wilson McLaughlin House Committee's efforts have been guided by the spirit of Edith Wilson's bequest: that her house be a gift to be used for municipal purposes. Due to the poor condition of the building, as well as the current climate of municipal building costs and codes, we are finding that the "spirit" of the bequest is being thwarted by its own conditions; the cost of literally achieving this bequest is becoming a hardship for the town.

It has been the committee's goal to create a project on the site that would yield a tangible result for the town; the desire for a community center has been on the table for years. The simplest, most modest plan using the existing Wilson house had a price tag of approximately \$900,000. A significant portion of that cost is attributable to the fact that perhaps as

Monterey Photo Contest Memorial Day Weekend

Here we are in the depths of winter, and Monterey is still one of the most beautiful places on Earth. The Select Board and Monterey Cultural Council invite you to celebrate our good fortune through pictures by participating in a Monterey photo contest that will take place during Memorial Day weekend (May 25–28) in the Meetinghouse community room. The contest is open to anyone—amateurs, professionals, young and not so young—but the photos must have been taken in Monterey. The subject matter is up to you, so look around at the landscape, wildlife, buildings or people, and see how our town looks through your lens.

Photographs may be taken in black and white or color, and digital photos are accepted as well. Each artist may enter up



much as 90 percent of the existing house is not usable. We are exploring ways to achieve the end goal at a more modest expense. The townspeople of Monterey are willing to do what it takes to make the community center a reality; we know that. Our job is to identify what we need and how best to build it for an affordable total. Part of that research is determining what exactly the town can and cannot do, as ruled by the Court.

— Susan Sellew, Wilson McLaughlin House Committee

to three photos and at least one of these (chosen at the discretion of the jury) will be displayed in the show. Selected photos may be included in Monterey promotional material. Photographers may also sell their submissions if they wish, and 20 percent of the proceeds will go to the Monterey Cultural Council for future programs. The prospectus including application form will be available at Town Hall or on the Town website, www.monterey-ma.org, after April 15.

Please hand deliver your entries with a completed application form to the Meetinghouse community room on **Sunday, May 20, from 4:00–6:00 p.m. or Monday, May 21, from 5:00–7:00 p.m.** Only ready-to-hang photos will be accepted, preferably framed, but neat mounting with hangers will be acceptable too. Maximum size including matting may not exceed 30 inches. Prizes of Monterey products and services will be awarded at a reception on Friday May 25, and the gallery will be open on Saturday from 9:00–2:00 and Sunday and Monday from 10:00–2:00. **Photo entries must be picked up at the Meetinghouse on Monday, May 28 (Memorial Day), between 2:00 and 3:00 p.m.** Call Kathryn Roberts at 644-9868 with questions.

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Offices to Be Decided in May Town Election

The following town offices will be decided in the May town election. Anyone interested in running for one of these positions should contact Jon Sylbert of the Democratic Town Committee or Mark Makuc of the Republican Town Committee, or see Town Clerk Barbara Swann if desiring to run as unenrolled candidate.

Board of Appeals – 5-year term*

Board of Assessors – 3 years

Board of Health – 3 years

Cemetery Commission – 3 years*

Constable – 3 years

Finance Committee – 3 years*

Library Trustees (2 seats to be decided)

– 3 years

– 3 years*

Moderator – 1 year

Park Commission – (2 seats)

– 3 years

– 3 years*

Planning Board (3 seats to be decided)

– 1 year*

– 5 years

– 5 years*

Select Board – 3 years*

Tax Collector – 3 years

Treasurer – 3 years

Tree Warden – 1 year

**indicates incumbent not seeking reelection*



Tony Manes, John Sellew, and Tom Ingersoll at the Big Concert.

Next Community Dinner February 14th

An overflow crowd of more than 50 attended the January Potluck Supper and brought a delicious array of dishes and desserts. Dr. Philip Bhark gave a very moving talk about his sojourn in Tibet, with much insight into the culture there. Many thanks to him and also to Nora Hayes for our new “Welcome” table toppers.

The next Monterey Community Potluck Dinner will be held on Valentine’s Day, Wednesday, February 14, at 6 p.m. at the Monterey Meetinghouse. We will have the pleasure of listening to the “Chord Sharks,” an award-winning barbershop quartet. They are members of the Barbershop Harmony Society and its Pittsfield chapter, known as the “Berkshire Hillsmen.”

Republican Meeting Feb. 27, Caucus March 3

The Republican Town Committee will meet Tuesday February 27, at 4 p.m. Anyone interested in running for any local office should get in touch with Mark Makuc, 528-1382, or Fran Amidon, 528-1233 before that meeting.

All registered Republicans are invited to vote at the caucus, which will be held Saturday, March 3, at 1:30 p.m. in the meetinghouse basement, to nominate candidates for the election in May.

Everyone is welcome; please bring a dish to share with a serving utensil and a plate and silverware for yourself.

— Kyle Pierce



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Library Notes

On Saturday, February 10, at 10:30 a.m., Denise Andrus will be back again with another story and craft hour. Denise will be helping the children get ready for Valentine's Day.

We would like to express our thanks to the Monterey Cultural Council for helping to sponsor our youth book discussion group. If you want to see kids who aren't glued to the TV screen or a computer monitor, come to the library on the first Monday of the month between 7 and 8 p.m. It's heartening to see Franny Huberman leading these kids in discussions about books and using games that show how much fun reading can be! These children tell it the way they see it, and in the next couple of issues of the *Monterey News* we'll let you read some of their book reviews. The Massachusetts Children's Book Award program has been the focus of the group so far. Anyone who comes to the library the first week of March will be able to vote if they have read five books from the list. If you happen to be in the third through the sixth grade, your votes will be sent on to count in the state tally for deciding the book of the year. We will count our votes and have a Monterey winner as well. It's a lot of fun to watch the children campaign for their favorite books. The children's vote will be March 5th at their regularly scheduled discussion.

They will also have the chance to nominate the books for next year's list.

Books must have been first published between 2003 and 2007. They should be primarily fiction and chapter books appealing to third through sixth graders, but can also include nonfiction. Full guidelines are available at the library. Again, our thanks to the Cultural Council for helping to make this possible.

We would also like to publicly thank all those generous people who have so far donated to the library in memory of former librarian Anne Marie Makuc. The voters at Town Meeting have always supported the library, but the library has always worked hard to supplement those funds with monies from book sales, grants, and donations. Those dollars help pay for the extras—Internet access, performers, more books than the budget allows, and small but welcome improvements to the building and grounds like the bench out front and the wooden window blinds.

— Mark Makuc,
Monterey Library Director



Let There Be Light!

Prolonged power outages have been much in the news lately and, given the weather these days, it could happen here as well. Instead of melting down old candles, etc., there is a 4,000-year-old solution to the problem. Take any vegetable oil, pour into jelly jar, china cup or small bowl, or a 4 oz can, just short of the rim. Make a small slice of a cork, punch a hole in the middle with a nail and thread an 8' piece of cotton string through it leaving a small wick at one end. Float the corked wick in the oil and light. Placing this close to a mirror can double the light. As with any open flame, take sensible precautions.

This can save on batteries and portable candles as well. It sometimes pays to listen to the ancient Sumerians. They gave us the 24-hour day, 60-minute hour and seconds, as well as the 7-day week.

May we all be enlightened!

— A. O. Howell

Nonviolent Adult Ice Hockey

Nonviolent Adult Ice Hockey will begin at Monterey Ice Skating Rink as soon as weather permits ice-making and continue through January and February:

- Sundays at 9 a.m.
- Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

The program is free, and all are welcome.

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Calling Monterey Artisans!

At the 2007 Gould Farm Honors Gala, there will be a silent auction of birdhouses handmade by local artisans. Each birdhouse will be featured as a centerpiece on the dining tables at the Gala. Peter Murkett, one of Monterey's favorite furniture makers, has agreed to do a birdhouse, and Arthur "Birdhouse Artie" Carbone from Sandisfield will be doing three.

The Farm is looking to have 22 birdhouses in total that will showcase the representative style of each artisan. Birdhouses can be functional (for outdoor use), or decorative (for indoor display). If you are interested in participating, please contact Edie Ross at 528-4990 or photolady1@mac.com.

The Gould Farm Honors Gala is celebrating its ninth year in 2007. The event is set for April 28 at Eastover Resort in Lenox. It raises funds for Gould Farm, America's oldest residential therapeutic community for adults coping with mental illness, offering emotional rehabilitation based on principles of respectful discipline, wholesome work, and unstinting kindness in a non-institutional setting.



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TOWN OF MONTEREY

Skating Rink Hours / Winter 2007

Firehouse Pavilion

MONDAY-FRIDAY

Dawn to 3:00 p.m.	Public Skating
3:00 to 5:00 p.m.	Kids/Family Hockey Time
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.	Public Skating (may be closed for ice-making at this time; also, skaters may be asked to leave the ice)
7:00 p.m. on, except Wednesday	Hockey Public Skating

SATURDAY

9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Kids / Family Hockey
noon to 3:00 p.m.	Public Skating
3:00 to 5:00 p.m.	Kids/Family Hockey
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.	CLOSED
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	Saturday Night Public Skating Party



SUNDAY

9 a.m. to noon	Pickup Hockey
Noon to 3:00 p.m.	Public Skating
3:00 to 5:00 p.m.	Kids/Family Hockey
after 5 p.m.	CLOSED for major icemaking repair

Skating rink hours are dawn–9 p.m.; if finishing a game after 9 p.m., please be considerate of your neighbors and keep it quiet.

Monterey Park Commission: Leroy Thorpe, 528-2164; Jim Edelman, 528-0006; Andrew Shaw, 528-0343; Valerie Zantay, 528-8222; Chandler Crawford, 528-6611

Ice Maintenance: Darryl Jassen, 528-1495; Rick Andrus, 528-1723

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Watchful Eyes

*Heavy white fog hangs
Over our ship.*

*High in the crow's nest
My mother sits,
The eternal light,
North,
East,
South
And West.*

*She is the
Compass,
The guide;
She wags at the wind.*

*When, in this weather,
Waves wait
To swamp me at any
Turn,
My mother shouts down to me,
"I love you; straight ahead."*

*I am grateful for her watch.
Her constant and devoted eyes.*

*As our ship docks,
My father stands on the shoreline
Battered, still, and proud.*

— Tarsi Dunlop

The Salmon

*Fly-fishing in the river's green sparkle,
the jumping ripples of the fresh,
he catches her — that huge gleaming treasure of a fish
and knows for sure she'll fetch him
untold riches*

*looks at her gasping,
her eye telling him —
then,
shaking his head, smiling a sigh,
gently unhooks the loss,
slips her back to the green sparkle
to spend her wealth of spawn,
her untold riches*

*the early sun cascades a cone of misty gold
through the hush of trees —
he breathes in the sharp of promise
aware he, too, now fills
with untold riches.*

— A. O. Howell

blue madonna

*midnight falls on the medieval madonna wrapped
in her blue as deep winter night lapis blue hoodie
with gold as stars trim gazing down and off
seemingly way off sadly in front of the typical
muted yellow mediterranean middle eastern stucco
wall the halo of her newborn saintly like all
babies child partly visible but in this moment
even he precious savior that he is proclaimed
to be is out of sight as she gazes downward
yet seemingly way off into the future sadly
realizing that even as immaculate as her
fertilization was even with all the angelic
coaching and counseling even with his simple
yet star borne birth and visit from the three
diviners even with his to be wisdom growth love
lessons and escapades of tall healing his destiny
as reckless revolutionary foretold the reckless
revolting nature of humankind its unforgiving and
savage ways its desire to kill and annihilate for
killings sake alone inventing gods and prophets
and written word to rationalize its hotbath
of blood she is sad because even her beautiful
savior son who will hang with liars doubters
and traitors will hang and die they say for all
our sins even he beautiful savior cannot save
these sons o' bitches from their vicious religious
visions their parade of patriotic parody their joyous
jackal feast*

— Boney Oscar

tea bowl

*you can't tell when the sky's gonna fall
nor tell when the moon's gonna rise out
through those descending bare November trees
like a tea bowl, pouring, merciful,
startling herbs to our pleading mouths
drinking of the lyrical star-wrought sea*

— Boney Oscar



Incentives Available for Increasing Energy Efficiency

People are becoming more aware of climate change and are now looking for affordable ways to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. Through Berkshire Gas Company, the Center for Ecological Technology (CET) can help Berkshire households that heat with natural gas save money, energy, and greenhouse gas emissions. Berkshire Gas Company offers financial incentives for insulation, instrumented air-sealing, and setback thermostats. Households can receive 50 percent of the cost up to \$1,500 per heating account to pay for eligible home energy improvements. Rebates are available for installing qualifying high-efficiency gas heating and hot water systems. For Berkshire Gas customers who are also served by National Grid, 0 to 3 percent low-interest loans are offered.

"Now is a great time to invest in energy efficiency. You can reduce your energy costs, increase your comfort as well as the value of your home, and feel really good about reducing your environmental impact," said Cathy Talarico, CET's Berkshire Gas Program manager.

The first step is to contact CET to schedule a home energy survey. For all residents, low-cost weatherization materials are available directly from CET. For more information, visit www.cetonline.org or call 1-800-944-3212 or 413-445-4556, ext. 12.

USDA, Rural Development Housing Programs

USDA Rural Development offers three housing programs that can provide essential assistance to local low-to-moderate income residents. These programs encourage homeownership and enable existing rural homeowners to repair, renovate, or provide handicap accessibility to their homes.

- USDA Rural Development's Section 502 Direct Homeownership Loan Program, for low to very low income rural homebuyers, provides individuals and families the opportunity to purchase or build a home with no down-payment and financing of up to 100 percent.

- The Section 502 Loan Guarantee Program offers low to moderate income homebuyers a loan secured by USDA Rural Development but made by an approved mortgage lender to a borrower who is unable to qualify fully for a conventional loan, because of substantial down-payment requirements. Loan rates are negotiated between the applicant and lender and include a 30-year fixed interest rate and no required private mortgage insurance.

- Through the Section 504 Home Improvement and Repair Program, funds may be made available, for example, to repair a leaking roof; replace a wood stove with central heating; or to construct a front-door ramp for someone using a wheelchair. Low income families and

Upon my Word!

Piggy banks have a curious history. In Scotland of yore, beds were warmed by clay bottles filled with hot water. The Gaelic for clay is *pygge*. In summertime, thrifty wives used the empty containers to hide away their pennies. Clever Scot decided to make a pig-shaped one and ta-dah! the idea became history. When I was staying at Kingshouse, the oldest inn in Scotland, they had one of these flat bottles as a curiosity but did not know the connection. They said they would feature it in the future.

— Alice O. Howell

individuals can receive loans at a 1 percent interest rate directly from USDA Rural Development, and homeowners who are 62 years of age and older are eligible for home improvement grants which do not have to be repaid.

Additional program information can be found on the local website: www.rurdev.usda.gov/ma or by contacting the USDA office in Hadley, 413-585-1000, ext. 4, or emailing Peter.Laurenza@ma.usda.gov.

—Peter P. Laurenza, Area Director,
USDA Rural Development

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Burning Season Guidelines

Each year, the state allows some Massachusetts towns, including Monterey, to conduct open burning. It is important to remember that when burning, you are subject to certain requirements and responsibilities issued and enforced by the State Fire Marshals Office, DEP, and your local Fire Department.

- Permits can be obtained from January 15 to April 30.
- You must obtain a permit for open burning from the Monterey Fire Department by calling **528-1734**.
- Residents must call on the day they will be burning; no permits are issued ahead of time. The permit is good for one day only.
- Burning hours start at 10 a.m. and all fires must be out by 4 p.m.
- Burning materials will be confined to brush only.
- Burning piles will be kept small and controllable
- No burning within 75 ft. of a building.
- Have a method of extinguishment and tools available.
- Never leave the fire unattended for any reason.
- Permits are issued weather permitting. Burning is not allowed every day.
- Don't wait until the end of April; you will be disappointed if you wait till the last minute.
- Burning season will not be extended.

Make sure you call for a permit at 528-1734 and leave your name, the address of where you are burning, and a phone number.

Otis Cultural Council Events

February 9: Valentine's Day Dance at Town Hall

Otis Cultural Council and Otis Recreation Commission invite you all to come on down to Town Hall, Friday February 9th for a Valentine's Dance. It will be for adults from 7:30–10:30 p.m., \$5 admission at the door. Refreshments will be available and DJ Richie Olechna will keep you moving .

The following events are supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council–MCC.

February 11: Couples Massage/Body Workshop

On Sunday February 11, from 1–4 p.m at the Otis Town Hall gym, Laura Lin, will conduct a free yoga couples massage/bodywork workshop. Share an afternoon of nurturing touch with a friend or loved one and learn Thai Yoga bodywork techniques. This is a clothed session—just bring a yoga mat and pillows. It is limited to 12 couples, and singles are welcome as well. Participants will be entered into a drawing for a free day at Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health. Please call Laura at 269-7266 to register or for more information

Coming in March: Family Yoga Fun! Have fun learning and doing yoga together on Sunday March 4th and 11th, 1–3 p.m. For families with children 5 and under, take a class from 1:00–1:40 p.m. For families with children 6 and older, take a class from 2:00–2:45 p.m. Classes are free and take place at the Otis Town Hall Gym.



Grant Awarded to Friends of Yanner Park

Friends of Yanner Park, Inc., has received a \$700 grant from The South Berkshire County Fund of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation to support publication of its newsletter, the Yanner Park Bulletin.

Robbin Campetti, president of the organization, said the newsletter is an important vehicle for keeping the community informed of the progress made in park planning and fundraising. Said Campetti, "The newsletter really helps people visualize the future park and understand what a wonderful community gathering place it will be."

Friends of Yanner Park was established in 2004 to create a park on the 257-acre parcel of land bequeathed to the Town of Sandisfield by the late Jack Yanner. Features include a pavilion and ice skating rink, picnic area, ball field, playground, and walking trails. For more information, visit www.yannerpark.org.

The South Berkshire County Fund, an endowment of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, is dedicated to improving the quality of life for the residents of South County. For more information, visit www.berkshiretaconic.org.

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Don't Fence Me In (I am the Ocean)

Today I heard on TV about a man who has been held in prison in the U.S. for over five years with no charges brought against him, no date set for a trial. For the first seventeen months this poor man was not allowed visitors of any kind, not the Red Cross, not a lawyer. Friends and family did not know if he was alive or dead. Now he can send letters to his family and receive them, but it takes as long as ten months for them to get past the government censors, and even a note from his little child is full of blacked-out sections.

After the TV show was over I put on my new boots and went out in the woods. First time for me in weeks, as I have been laid up with a broken foot. I bushwhacked up the brook, loving the fresh otter tracks, muddy where she had come through a hole in the ice. She made full body slides going uphill or down. An otter travels long distances looking for fish of any size, crayfish, anything meaty and aquatic. In a night an otter may cover six or seven miles, and during its lifetime will hunt over a watery river and stream system

of twenty-one miles. In the winter they may fling themselves in a belly flop on the ice and slide for twenty feet or more.

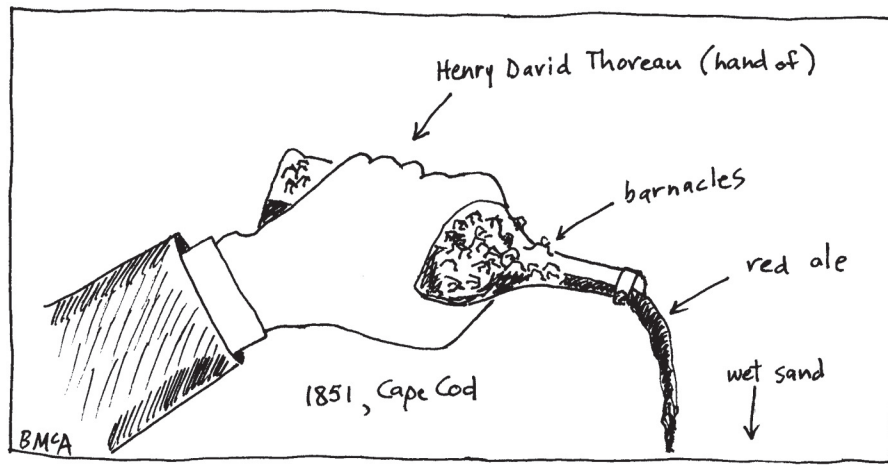
I was flexing my healing foot, stumping through the woods, thinking about the otter and about Ali al-Marri, a legal resident of the U.S., stuck in a cell for five years by a government (mine) that claims it has the right to hold him forever without charges, without hope. No walk in the woods for him, no twenty-foot slides.

Meanwhile, out in Wyoming there is a herd of pronghorns (we used to call them antelope) that travel 120 miles

In the *New Yorker*: 30 percent increase in crime 2004–2005; 12 billion dollars oil and gas income in 2004; 58 grams of methamphetamine in 2005, 2 lbs. of meth seized so far this year; 47 percent decline in mule deer populations since 2000; Sublette Co. human population 7,000 over 5,000 square miles, 3,000 roughnecks arriving since 2000.

I didn't settle in Pinedale after all and I do not know Ali al-Marri. What do these stories have to do with me and my otter? We are all, as Thoreau wrote in 1851, "drifting about in the ocean of circumstances" (*Cape Cod*, page 135). We

may keep our stories separate for awhile, like the bottle of beer Thoreau found on the beach, "half-buried in the wet sand, covered with barnacles, but stopped tight and half full of red ale, which still smacked of juniper,—all that remained I fancied from the wreck of a rowdy world,— that great salt sea of the



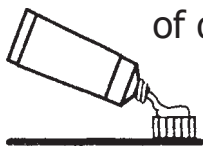
one hand, and this little sea of ale on the other, preserving their separate characters." But then he opens the bottle and pours it slowly onto the wet sand and says we are all "destined ere long to mingle with the surrounding waves, or be spilled amid the sands of a distant shore."

And that is it. I feel myself spilling. I am an American who can't seem to save habeas corpus or the western wildlands, a person who cooks with gas and lives on gasoline, who reads books, suffers a broken bone, watches TV. I have to understand that I am not a distinct vessel in an ocean of circumstances. I am the ocean.

— Bonner J. McAllester

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south every winter, out of Jackson Hole, and then back up again. They go right by the town of Pinedale, a place I once thought I would settle down in and teach biology, trading my New England woods for sagebrush. Now Pinedale and the rest of Sublette County are in the grip of a natural-gas drilling boom, a population explosion of roughnecks, and a surge in land development. You can read all about it in the current *New Yorker* magazine, or the January issue of *Smithsonian*.

The *Smithsonian* article provides some numbers: Teton herd 200 pronghorns; 6,000 years on the same migration route; 20 trillion cubic feet of methane gas.

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Letter from College

Social Entrepreneurship: Forward Thinking

I have a good friend here at Middlebury that I met October of my freshmen year. David introduced himself at a launch event we had on campus for our chapter of the Roosevelt Institution, a national nonprofit student think tank. Last year we worked together leading a center comprised of students brainstorming for creative solutions for international issues. I was just getting settled in and was so glad to have David's knowledge and leadership as an example to follow.

For his senior independent research project, David wrote a paper on social entrepreneurship and an outline for a Master's Degree at Middlebury College. The plan has questions that do not yet have answers, but I am overwhelmed at the scope of this proposal and the fact that a fellow student managed to make this idea come to life. The five-year program is broken down into components year by year. The first year you take classes introducing you to the idea of social entrepreneurship; in the second year, you pick one of five tracks to specialize in, for

example education or health. The third year is spent abroad putting networking skills to use and doing an internship or volunteer work along the line of your focus track. Then the fourth year is spent at Monterey Institute for International Studies, a partner school of Middlebury's, and for the fifth year you return to Middlebury to write up your final project and research, and give some of your experiences back to the community.

This is a very broad overview, but it connects to Middlebury's new guiding mission principle of "knowledge without borders." It is designed to encourage dangerous (powerful and outside the box) ideas to flourish, and to develop student identity from being still somewhat passive to becoming agents of change.

Wilford Welch, a former U.S. diplomat, spoke about the importance of uniting the enthusiasm and energy of the younger generation with the wisdom and vision of an older generation, a call for a new partnership emphasizing positive thinking for change. Social entrepreneurship, as described on the Schwab Foundation website, is about applying practical, innovative, and sustainable approaches to benefit society in general, with an emphasis on those who are marginalized

or poor. A social entrepreneur is a pragmatic visionary who achieves large-scale, systematic, and sustainable social change through a new invention, a different approach, a more rigorous application of known technologies or strategies, or a combination of these. Such people share many common traits, but most important are: an unwavering belief in the innate capacity of people to contribute meaningfully to economic and social development combined with a driving passion to make that happen; and a practical but innovative approach to social problems, often using market principles and forces, coupled with dogged determination that allows them to break away from constraints imposed by ideology or field of discipline and pushes them to take risks others wouldn't dare (www.schwabfound.org).

I listened to David's enthusiasm and belief in this rapidly growing movement of social entrepreneurs and the idea that the market can work for the people so that good can be accomplished while livelihoods are still earned. Establishing a Master's Degree to aid students in putting a liberal arts education to use through opening up dialogue, encouraging an international focus with a study abroad component, and advocating for positive change is just one example of how universities can take responsibility for paving the way for tomorrow's solutions now. Students, David pointed out, should not have to wait until graduation to feel they can make a difference and pursue something big. This journey can and should be able to start within the education itself.

Although I personally will not be directly involved in any future Master's Degree that hopefully will and should be established at Middlebury, I heard a talk that afternoon that pushed me to think outside the box. An idea like this one, providing a path by which people can design an education around their desire to achieve a positive change as a career choice — well, there's a dangerous idea and it received the appropriate enthusiastic response it deserves for being expressed.

The digital video of the presentation can be found at <http://www.middlebury.edu/administration/rcfia/archives/>.

— Tarsi Dunlop




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The Open Waters of Global Melting

For years, environmental journalists have warned about global warming, crying out like voices in the wilderness on deaf ears of public apathy. Now, proving that one picture is worth a thousand words, the message comes through on prime-time media of huge chunks of a polar glacier breaking loose to fall splashing into the sea. Now everyone is talking about it, and here we are wondering why winter has finally come a month late.

Ten years ago, our first full winter in Monterey, the first snowfall came just before Thanksgiving and snowy weather lasted until a few weeks before spring. Through the newly installed storm windows of our recently insulated and winterized summer cottage, we watched the

stark landscape fade with each flurry, and then white out with subsequent blizzards that left drifts of several feet around the foundation. We felt snug with the coming thermal blanket of ice and snow that across the wetlands sealed the muskrat houses and beaver lodges against the cold.

Now, as I am writing this on the eve of Groundhog Day, a milestone marking midwinter, the inclement weather has finally come a month after the winter solstice, just as I was beginning to think of writing a short apocalyptic sequel to Rachael Carlson's *Silent Spring*, perhaps

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an article entitled "The Winter That Never Came"!

Wildlife reports are coming in daily that seem to indicate animals have been exhibiting behavioral aberrations. A week ago, black bear tracks were identified along the southern muddy edge of Lake Garfield. Bears do not normally stray so far from their dens in late January. And in the cove just beyond Bullhead Rock, a large gaggle of Canada geese have been in residence to dabble daily in the shallows, apparently putting migrational instincts on the back burner. In the beaver pond a short distance down Sandisfield Road, a large school of shining bait fish were seen glittering in the sunlight up near the surface, instead of out of sight in a torpid state near the bottom. The next day, an otter was seen basking in the sun on the bank, perhaps savoring an unexpected banquet.

The question arises whether a late start of winter augurs an early spring. This might seem to be a premise that would hurt those in business, but not wildlife. Furnaces would not burn oil long into the night, and meters on gas pumps would not run up endless dollars and cents to fill up our tanks. We might even get a head start to break our dependence on foreign oil and develop other organic sources.

The melting of ice by fire began twenty-five thousand years ago with the retreat of the Wisconsin Glacier from this land, but we should no longer interfere with natural cycles.

— George Emmons

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Feet on the Street for Peace

To the Editor:

Quite a good contingent of us from Monterey took the overnight bus to Washington, DC, on January 27 to protest the Iraq War. We had a sober ride down, no singing. Quiet talk on issues, some reading and journal writing, some sleeping, stiff necks. Cora and I went to the Interfaith Peace Service early in the morning in a huge Lutheran Church. We sang a song in Zulu and said, "Om....." with hundreds of people of different religions. We listened to Rabbi Michael Lerner encouraging us to "screw realism!" and keep the faith, the confidence, the vision of better things to come.

Then it was out on the streets for the day, gawking at signs and sculptures (some built onto bicycles—a new art form in my experience) and puppets. Listening to congresspeople, military families, Hollywood celebs, Jesse Jackson, and some great music with places we could join in.

The sun came out, the jackets came off, and we picnicked on the Mall before setting off on a huge march around the Capitol. Once up the hill we could look back and see that this was huge. Other times I have gone to DC and come back to tell you jokingly that I counted and there really were 200,000 people there. I

like to contradict the radio and the paper when they say "thousands of protesters," or "tens of thousands."

This time, I have to admit, there were just too many for me to count. I was distracted by the bicycle that was made into a charming (and rideable) camel. And by the man who came with a coffin, symbolizing his son's death in Iraq. The woman who told of her young relative sent into combat after two weeks' training.

I spent the day in the nation's capital with a solid mass of folks, half a million, who had come from 47 states to say, "No more war in Iraq." I was sorry when it was time to go home. I wanted all of us to just stay there. In fact, many did stay until Monday and lobbied their congresspeople. Code Pink people went to Hillary Clinton's office and said, "We don't just want a woman president, we want a woman who is against the war!"

The next big peace march is March 17. Call me if you want to find out about transportation. Start fixing up your bicycles and practicing your "Om....."

— Bonner McAllester, 528-9385



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Remembering John Landor

Dr. John H. Landor, 79, of 140 Beartown Mountain Road, died January 4th at home of lung cancer.

Born in Canton, Ohio, September 30, 1927, son of Henry and Alice Schaefer Landor, he earned his Ph.D. and M.D. from the University of Chicago in 1948 and 1953.

At the time of his death, Dr. Landor was professor emeritus of surgery at the State University of New York, Health Science Center, in Brooklyn, N.Y. He developed a new surgical method of controlling Zollinger-Ellison syndrome, a severe stomach condition previously treated with total gastrectomy. He was a fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Landor had a long career as a general surgeon, mentoring many younger doctors, and was also an internationally respected investigator in the field of gastrointestinal physiology.

After surgical training at the University of Chicago, he joined the faculty of the University of Missouri School of Medicine, Columbia, Mo., rising to the rank of professor in 1968. He was professor of surgery at the University of Florida

in Gainesville from 1969 until 1972, when he left to become founding chief of general surgery at Rutgers University Medical School in New Brunswick, N.J., where, among other duties, he started the training program for residents in general surgery.

In 1984, Dr. Landor joined the Indian Health Service and served for three years as chief of surgery at Shiprock Hospital on the Navaho Reservation in Shiprock, N.M. In 1987, he was appointed professor of surgery at SUNY Health Science Center in Brooklyn, N.Y.; he also served as chief of surgery at the Brooklyn Veterans Administration Hospital until his retirement in 1992.

In 1999, he moved to Becket, and, in 2004, to nearby Monterey. He enjoyed classical music and art.

Dr. Landor and his wife, the former Mary Weitzel Gibbons, were married at the Unitarian Universalist Church in New York on August 16, 2000.

Besides his wife, he leaves three daughters, Jenifer Landor Vlaskalic of London, Gina Landor of London and Sarajevo, and Giulia Landor of Torri In Sabina, Italy; three sons, John Randall Landor of London, Derric Landor of Fleet, England, and Christopher Todd Landor of New York City; a stepdaughter, Elizabeth Gibbons of San Francisco; a stepson, David Gibbons of New York City. He

also leaves four grandchildren, Melissa, Floriane, Luka, and Elliot.

Dr. John H. Landor maintained a strong interest in music and art. These were fueled during an academic research sabbatical he took, with his young family, to London in 1966. At this time, he also began longtime associations with various European schools of medicine, including the Royal Postgraduate School, London, and the Unité de Recherches de Gastro-entérologie, Paris.

As a result of his love for music and art, Dr. Landor met Mary Gibbons while the two were affiliated with Rutgers; she was completing her Ph.D. degree in art history and he was taking courses in the subject during his spare time from his duties at the medical school. Their marriage provided Dr. Landor with a level of love, understanding, intimacy, and respect that, in his words, "can rarely, if ever, be found."

A memorial will be held in the summer at the Monterey Meetinghouse, to be announced at a later date.



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Remembering Anne Marie Makuc

Mrs. Anne Marie Elisabeth Leuchs Makuc, 68, of 471 Main Road, Monterey, died Monday evening, January 1, 2007, at Berkshire Medical Center.

Born in Brooklyn, NY, on August 29, 1938, she was the daughter of Fritz A. H. and Elsie Anne Marie Leuchs. She graduated from Fort Hamilton High School in Brooklyn in 1955. She attended Pembroke College and received her Bachelors Degree from Brown University in 1959. She also attended Westfield State College, taking courses in library science and attained professional certification from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a librarian.

Anne Marie was an elected Trustee of the Monterey Library for 40 years, from 1965 to 2005. She was the librarian from 1978 to 2005. She also served the Town of Monterey in various other capacities, including as an elected official on the Cemetery Commission and editor of the town's 125th anniversary booklet. She served on the Republican Town Committee.

She taught English and Math at Williams High School in Stockbridge. She married Henry J. Makuc on April 15, 1961.

She was a communicant and one of the first Eucharistic Ministers of Our Lady of the Valley Roman Catholic Church in Sheffield. She also was the parish secretary for over fifteen years. She volunteered for the Marians of the Immaculate Conception for many years.

She was an avid bridge player and a fan of the Brooklyn Dodgers and Boston Red Sox.

She is predeceased by her husband, who died on January 3, 2005, and two children, Mary Elisabeth and Stephen Andrew. She is survived by seven children: Mark Makuc and his wife, Mary, of Monterey; John Makuc and his wife, Cynthia, of Monterey; James Makuc and his wife, Donna, of Boylston, MA; Christopher Makuc and his wife, Kathleen, of Rockville, MD; Anne Marie Enoch and her husband, Stephen, of Monterey; Marta



Starzewski and her husband, Gabriel, of Great Barrington; and Paul Makuc and his wife, Jaime, of Litchfield, CT. She leaves thirteen grandchildren: Gabriella, Joseph Victor, Justin, Marya, Nadia, Jacob, Madeline, Grace, Catherine, Sarah, Matthew, Elisabeth, and Joseph Henry.

Donations in her memory may be made to the Monterey Library, PO Box 172, Monterey, MA 01245 or the Field Altar Fund at the Marians of the Immaculate Conception, Attn: Maria Colli, Eden Hill, Stockbridge, MA 01263.



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Sat: 7:30 am-5:00 pm
Sunday, 8:00-11:00 am

Remembering Paul Dixon

Paul B. Dixon, 67, of West Street in Sandisfield, died Sunday, January 7, 2007, at Fairview Hospital in Great Barrington.

Born February 17, 1939 in Beverly, Massachusetts he was the son of Bertram and Carrie Wiggin Dixon. He attended local schools and graduated from Beverly Vocational and Technical School.

In 1960 Paul moved to Monterey, where he worked at New England Keswick Camp for a few years before moving to Chicago, Illinois, in 1963. He worked for Moody Bible Institute in Chicago for ten years, then began his thirty-four-year association with AWANA Clubs International (Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed) in Streamwood, Illinois.

Paul married his wife, the former Gertrude McFarlane, on April 11, 1986, in Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada. The couple met in Africa, where Gertrude was doing missionary work and Paul was visiting family.

In 1999 Paul and Gertrude moved to Sandisfield. Prior to his death, Paul was employed again at New England Keswick and also for Ormsbee Bus Company, driving a school bus for the Southern Berkshire Regional School District.

School Bus Riders Remember Paul Dixon

Mr. Dixon was my bus driver last year when I was in first grade. He loved frogs. He had a frog cap and some little frogs that ribbit and do things like that if you squeeze them. We have a cat named Otis. Whenever Otis came outside to meet the bus Mr. Dixon petted him. He also carried dog treats on the bus that he sometimes gave out to people's dogs. Mr. Dixon was always cheerful. He was always asking for high fives. He was always on time. We used to meet him at the post office. He always came to see Anita. I will always miss Mr. Dixon.

— Ella Carlson

Paul was an active member of his church, the Faith Bible Church in Winsted, Connecticut.

He is survived by his wife, along with his two daughters, Janice Martinez of Chicago and Judy Stevenson of Tacoma, Washington. He also leaves two brothers, Norman W. Dixon of Philadelphia and Walter R. Dixon of Chicopee, Massachusetts, and six grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to either New England Keswick or Faith Bible Church through Finnerty and Stevens Funeral Home, 426 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230. Remembrances, memories and reflections may be sent to the family through www.finnertyandstevens.com.

Two years ago, when I was in the fifth grade, one of my school bus drivers was Mr. Paul Dixon. He was one of the best bus drivers I have ever known. He would greet everyone with a smile and a cheery "hello!" that let us know he cared about us and brightened the often gray morning.

This pleasant disposition did not stop once we were inside the school bus. His patience and cheery attitude continued throughout the day. I don't remember one instance when he got mad or raised his voice at us. No one misbehaved because we all liked him so much.

He was also very supportive outside of the school bus. He came to our plays, band recitals, and chorus performances. Even when I stopped riding his bus, we still maintained a friendly relationship. I remember him not primarily as a bus driver, but as a friend.

— Jonah Carlson

Paul Dixon was my bus driver for three school years. He was a kind, loving man, who, no matter what, didn't act like he was doing a job. He didn't act like he had to drive the bus. He just acted like it was a nice, playful game of "Be the kindest person you can be." With him, it was never too late for another "Good morning," "See you tomorrow," or "See you on Monday." I remember when I first met him I thought it was annoying. Now I see he was being thoughtful. He was really kind, and I just wish there were more words in the English language to describe Paul B. Dixon.

— Joseph Makuc

Phil Cooley D/B/A

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Calendar

Every Monday (exc. holidays): Select Board meeting, 8:30 a.m.–noon, Town Offices.

Thursday, February 8: Free blood pressure clinic, 2–3 p.m., Town Offices, administered by Visiting Nurses Assoc.

Saturday, February 10: Story and Valentine's Day crafts presented by Denise Andrus, 10:30 a.m., Monterey Library.

Tuesday, February 13: Community Conversation on Monterey School, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall. Sponsored by Select Board and Planning Board. See pp. 1–2.

Wednesday, February 14: Community Potluck Dinner, 6 p.m., Meetinghouse basement. Program by "Chord Sharks," award-winning barbershop quartet. See p. 9.

Monday, February 19: President's Day. Town Hall, Library closed.

Tuesday, February 20: Free health screening, 10 a.m., Town Hall Meeting Room.

Saturday, February 24:

Voter information meeting on local town election issues, 2 p.m., Monterey Meetinghouse. Sponsored by *Monterey News* and Democratic and Republican caucuses. See p. 3.

Contributors

We thank the following folks for recent contributions. Readers like you make it possible for us to continue publishing.

Elizabeth "Bonsai" Cox
Carol & William Ban
Edith Green
William Swan
John Martin & Jill Lawrence
Cheryl Zellman & Marc Gordon
(in memory of Henry Wolfer)

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Tuesday, February 27: Republican Town Committee meeting, 4 p.m. Meetinghouse basement. See p. 9.

Saturday, March 3: Monterey Republican Caucus, 1:30 p.m., Meetinghouse basement. See p. 9.

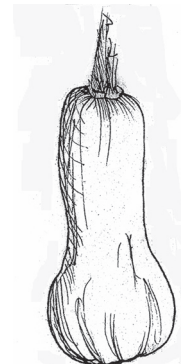
The Observer

December 26–January 25

High temp. (1/7)..... 64°
Low temp. (1/18) 0°
Avg. high temp. 36.7°
Avg. low temp. 21.3°
Avg. temp. 29°
Total precipitation
(rain and melted snow) 4.24 in.
Snowfall 5.3 in.
Precipitation occurred on 24 days.

Why We're Late

This issue of the *Monterey News* is hitting the streets late because the editor had to be out of town caring for his elderly mother. We will resume the normal publication schedule with the March issue.



Transfer Station Winter Hours

Sunday	10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Wednesday	8 a.m.–1 p.m.
Saturday	8 a.m.–1 p.m.

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Editor..... Will Marsh
Asst. Editor Glynis Oliver
Reporter..... Maggie Leonard
Mailing Labels Joe Baker
Treasurer Mari Enoch

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poetry, and photographs from readers.
Please send submissions (e-mail or
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Contributions from local artists this month:
Rachel Arnow, pp. 13, 19; Maureen Banner, pp. 10, 20, 23;
George Emmons, p. 18; Bonner McAllester, p. 16;
Glynis Oliver, p. 11.

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